

## CAROLINA YELLOW-EYED GRASS

*Xyris caroliniana*

Located in swamps, bogs, wet peat and sand throughout the Division; mostly near the coast. There are 11 other species of this genus found in wetlands within the Division boundaries. All species are very similar, differing only in minor characteristics. Nine additional species occur in the south. Also known as Yellow Flowering-Rush.

A soft, flat-based perennial occurring in tufts or mats. The flowering stalks are slender, straight or spiraling, 2 sided above; 5 to 90 cm high; terminating in an oval spike (0.5 to 1.4 cm long; 0.4 to 1.1 cm diameter when mature). The spikes are composed of numerous small, yellowish or brown, scale-like bracts

with conspicuous green centers. The leaves are narrow (0.5 to 6 mm wide), one-third to one-half as long as mature flower stalks, with little if any twisting. Small, yellow, 3-petaled flowers blossom from the spike from July through September.



This genus is used as food by mallard ducks.